THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) Retention prices of urea units are being fixed in accordance with the provisions of the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme (RPS). RPS provides for fixation of retention price of individual units on per tonne basis, after taking into account the normative capacity utilization level prescribed under the Scheme and a combination of norms and actuals in respect of the various cost elements and expenses. Pre-tax return on net-worth corresponding to post tax return of 12% is given as part of the retention price after covering various elements of cost. This scheme has been continued till 30-6-1997 and the Government is in the process of finalising the pricing policy for the period beyond 1-7-1997. Meanwhile subsidy is being paid to the units on *ad-hoc* basis on the principles of RPS Scheme.

Further, the Government is in the process of examination of recommendations of high Powered Fertilizers Pricing Policy Review Committee (April 1998) and Expenditure Reforms Commission (September 2000), views of State Governments/fertilizer industry/workers associations etc. to finalise a new pricing policy for urea.

Closure of Durgapur and Haldia plants of HFL

2002. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA :

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government are considering the closure of Durgapur and Haldia Plants of Hindustan Fertilizers Limited;

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(c) what is the number of workers employed in these two plants, since when they are not being paid their wages and what steps are proposed to be taken to clear their wage arrears and other statutory dues ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) While a decision has already been taken by the Government to close/hive off the Haldia Fertilizer Project of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC), the rehabilitation proposal of HFC including the Durgapur plant, based on unit wise

viability was considered by the competent authority in the Government on 31-5-2001. A Group of Ministers has been constituted to examine the proposal and submit its recommendations.

(c) The work-force in the Haldia Fertilizer Project and the Durgapur Plant is 1356 and 1306, respectively, as on 1-11-2001. The company is making payments of salary/wages and statutory dues regularly and there are no arrears in this regard.

Foreign Technology for Manufacturing Bulk Drugs

2003. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) What is the nature and details of the foreign technology available in India for manufacturing bulk drugs, following the automatic approval for foreign technology agreements; and

(b) What are the intermediates and/or formulations that can be manufactured using those bulk drugs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) the nature and details of the technologies and processes are confidential.

FDI in Pharma Industry

2004. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total amount of FDI in pharma industry through automatic route, after it was raised to 100 per cent;

(b) which drugs are being manufactured by those 100 per cent foreign companies; and

(c) which diseases can be treated by those medicines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) The information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.